



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 00-1278)

PATENT

17
11/26/07

In re Application of:

Lawton, et al.

Serial No.: 09/765,739

Filed: January 18, 2001

For: Compositions and Methods for the Detection of
Ehrlichia Canis and Ehrlichia Chaffensis
Antibodies

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: V. Ford

**FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

BOX IDS

**Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure provided by 35 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§ 1.97-98, the applicants wish to make the following references of record in the above-identified application. Copies of the references are enclosed. Copies are also listed in the PTO-1449 form enclosed herewith. It is requested that the documents be given careful consideration and that they be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application so that they will appear on the face of the patent issuing from the present application.

In the judgment of the undersigned, portions of the references may be material to the examination of the pending claims, however no such admission is intended. 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (h). The references have not been reviewed in sufficient detail to make any other representation and, in particular, no representation is indented as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. This Statement is not a representation that the cited references have effective dates early enough to be "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 102 or 103.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

Applicants would like to bring the following related applications to the Examiner's attention:

United States Patents

1. Dawson, et al. U.S. Patent No., 5,192,679, issued March 9, 1993.
2. Dawson, U.S. Patent No., 5,401,656, issued March 28, 1995.
3. Dawson, et al. U.S. Patent No., 5,413,931, issued May 9, 1995.
4. Dawson, et al. U.S. Patent No., 5,789,176, issued August 4, 1998.
5. Munderloh, et al. U.S. Patent No., 5,869,335, issued February 9, 1999.
6. Dumler, et al. U.S. Patent No., 5,928,879, issued July 27, 1999.
7. Dumler, et al. U.S. Patent No., 5,955,359, issued September 21, 1999.
8. Mabilat, et al. U.S. Patent No., 5,976,791, issued November 2, 1999.
9. Coughlin, et al., U.S. Patent No., 5,976,860, issued November 2, 1999.
10. Dawson, U.S. Patent No., 5,989,848, issued, November 23, 1999.
11. Walker, et al., U.S. Patent No., 6,015,691, issued January 18, 2000.
12. Joshi, et al. U.S. Patent No., 6,034,085, issued, March 7, 2000.
13. Murphy, et al. U.S. Patent No., 6,204,252, March 20, 2001.
14. Reed, et al. U.S. Patent No., 6,277,381, issued, August 21, 2001.
15. Coughlin, et al. U.S. Patent No., 6,284,238, issued September 4, 2001.
16. Murphy, et al. U.S. Patent No., 6,306,394, issued October 23, 2001.
17. Reed, et al. U.S. Patent No., 6,306,402, issued October 23, 2001.

18. Walker, et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,355,777, issued March 12, 2002.

19. Walker, et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,458,942, issued October 1, 2002.

Foreign Documents

20. PCT Patent No. WO 99/13720, issued March 25, 1999

Published Application

21. Reed, et al. U.S. Patent Application No.20020064535, published May 30, 2002.

22. Reed, et al. U.S. Patent Application No.20020068343, published June 6, 2002.

23. Reed, et al. U.S. Patent Application No.20020086984, published July 4, 2002.

24. Walker, et al. U.S. Patent Application No.20020115840, published August 22, 2002.

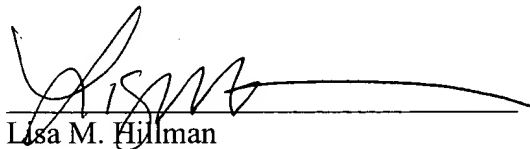
25. Barbet, et al. U.S. Patent Application No. 20020132789, published September 19, 2002.

26. Walker, et al. U.S. Patent Application No.20020064531, published May 30, 2002.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: November 22, 2002

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